
SECOND
Political DIALOGUES
Between the Celebrated
STATUES
OF
PASQUIN *and* MARFORIO.
AT
ROME, &c.

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Between the CELEBRATED

STATUES

O F

Pasquino and *Marforio*

A T

R O M E.

Translated from the Original *Italian*, published
the Twenty-fifth Day of last *March*.

Dedicated to the Right Hon. the Lord *Corruption*.

L O N D O N :

Printed for *T. Boreman* near *Child's* Coffee-House
in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*, and to be had at the
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(Price One Shilling.)

SECOND

Political Dialogues

Between the CLERICAL

STATUES

OF

Parliament and Ministers

AT

ROMAN.

Translated from the Original Latin, published
the Twenty-fifth Day of last March.

Dedicated to the Right Hon. the Lord Chancellor.

L O N D O N :

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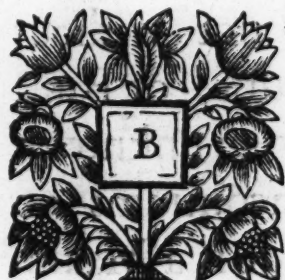


T H E
DEDICATION

To the RIGHT HONOURABLE

T H E
Lord *CORRUPTION*.

MY LORD,



BEFORE I presume
to intreat your Lordship's
Sanction of my present
Labours, 'tis but just that
I make some Apology,
for having, last Year, addressed my self
to the younger Branch of your Illu-
strious House, preferable to your All-
worthy Self. Let this, then, be my
Excuse; that as you intrusted the weighty
A Province

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Province of Foreign Negotiation to your *Junior*, I imagined you would be better pleased he should be honoured with the Patronage of all Political Tracts, than your self. If, after this, you should still be of Opinion, that I was wanting in my Duty, I am unfortunate; and can only beseech your Lordship to consider, that I was erroneous in Judgment only.

I could have no View of Interest in my Preference of the Renown'd *Equilibrist*, to your Lordship; for I can safely Swear, that I had neither Place or Pension, nor did I ever Solicite for any. It is true, I was not without Hopes, that a handsome Purse, or Bank Note, would be sent me by an unknown Hand, for my genteel Encomiums on the Family. But it seems, it is a Maxim with your *House*, never to encourage Merit to find the Avenue to your good Graces.--And I wish, for this Reason, that the two old *Romans* I introduce to your Lordship, may not be coldly received by you. But if it should so happen,
they

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they have still the Comfort of Suffering in my good Company. The *P——ys*, the *B——ns*, the *C——ms*, the *S——rs*, and the much to be lamented *T——t*, have met with the like Fate, whilst the —— the ——, the —— and Shoals of other worthless *W——* were cherish'd, and loaded with Pensions and Preferments.

If my Authors are to be credited, your Lordship's Sway is almost universal in this our Land, flowing with Milk and Honey. I won't answer for the Truth of this bold Assertion; but my Lord, should they happen to be Right, one may venture to conclude, that instead of Milk and Honey, we shall soon be over-run with Poverty and Dispair. And, in such Case, I would beseech your Lordship to consider what Sort of Abject Creatures you'll have to Exercise your Power over. A Word to the Wise, my Lord. You have a Family; therefore, should think of Futurity.

It is true, *Marforio* is Positive that we are incapable of seeing at any Di-

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stance,

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stance; and I confess, one would be inclined to believe him from the present Situation of our Affairs; but I should think it impossible, that one of your Lordships known Sagacity should have a Veil over your Eyes, that have been so *Adroit*, as to Hood-wink a whole People.

We have a late glorious Instance of your Lordship's Address, in the mysterious Art of Blind-folding. It will immediately occur to your Lordship's Memory, that I mean your Defeat of a late Scheme, for encreasing the present small Pittance of Milk and Honey, which our industrious Poor are obliged to subsist upon. But, my Lord, tho' you might think it necessary to curb the Insolence of the Doughty *Knight*, that dared to introduce any Thing of that Moment, without your Consent and Approbation. I cannot help being of Opinion with *Marforio*, who, it seems, had wind of that Scheme, that Part, at least, of it would have been of singular Use to you. I am so satisfy'd

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fy'd, that you your self, think it would, notwithstanding your present seeming Disregard, that I am ready to Stake my Stock of Knowledge against your *Integrity*, however unequal I may think the Wager, that you will Fashion the Scheme, and bring it your self upon the *Tapis*, before the end of the next Year.

The late *Schemist*, however virtuous and wise on other Occasions, was grossly Mistaken to imagine your Lordship would agree to a Project made Publick, before you and your Creatures could have Time to make a Penny of it. He might have remembered, that you had constantly made your *Market* many Months, before you ushered your Schemes to the Publick. But his Zeal for the Bleeding Publick, hurry'd him beyond his usual Prudence.

But of all the Inconsistencies I have known my Country-men guilty of, and God knows I have been Eye-witness of many, I never knew one more absurd than their Behaviour towards

vi DEDICATION.

wards this same unhappy Scheming Knight. Methinks I see your Lordship hugging your sweet Self for having whipp'd this Darling *Cit* out of the good Opinion of his fellow Citizens with a Rod of his own cutting. Well might *Marforio* say that we are incapable of fathoming Futurity, since, in this Instance, 'tis plain we can't see the Length of our Noses. I should not wonder, indeed, to hear the Money'd part of the People had inveigh'd against one that endeavour'd to ease the *Industrious*, by throwing part of their Burthen on the *Idle*; but to see the silly Beasts of Burthen themselves, exult in their Load, hug their Chains, and throw Dirt at the relieving Patriot they should revere and adore.— *Monstrum Horrendum!*

I think nothing can more evidently point out your Lordship's Influence, than the Publick Indignities offer'd to this Second Rate Martyr; nor can I any longer, without wronging my Judgment, hesitate one Moment, to conclude

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clude with the Celebrated Statues, that your Sway is Universal within the Bounds of the Narrow Seas.

I wish, my Lord, for your Sake, I could say that you had equal Influence at *Vienna*, *Paris*, and *Madrid*. But 'tis much to be fear'd that your Lordship's Power at these remote Places sinks in Proportion to its Increase at Home. My last *Patron*, your able Negociator, can probably inform you if the Fact be so. It is true, if you were never to stir from Home, never to apprehend unwelcome Visits from Abroad, the Decrease of your Influence amongst Foreigners, could be attended with no very Bad Consequence: But, my Lord, shou'd you ever be drove to the dire Necessity of calling for Aid, 'tis a terrible thing to be Friendless. Your Lordship best knows if your Conduct, since the Memorable Year *Twenty*, has drawn upon you that flagrant Neglect of Foreigners which so visibly encreases throughout the whole Continent.

You'll

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You'll observe from the Dialogues, that *Pasquin* and *Marforio* are your Friends. For your Lordship knows, that it is the Part of a Friend to put one in mind of his Faults. They do it with great Sincerity of Heart, and for that Reason, I hope your Lordship will take them under your All-Powerful Wings. As for my Part, whether or no you will allow me to be of the Number of your Slaves, I shall ever think myself oblig'd to publish your Merit for the General Good of my Fellow-Subjects, who enjoy so many *Substantial Blessings* under your Awful Administration. I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Most humble and

Devoted Servant,

The Translator.

SECOND

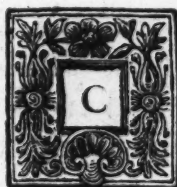


*Second Political Dialogues be-
tween the Statutes of Pasquin
and Marforio at Rome, &c.*

D I A L O G U E I.

Pasquin and Marforio.

Pasq.



OME, come, *Marforio*; Prithee, be more sociable. — Fold up your Pacquet, lay by your Spectacles, and indulge your old Acquaintance, whilst yet the Silence of Night is propitious to that Frankness and Openness with which we have, and, I hope, ever will entertain each other. A few Hours will deprive us of the Pleasure we proposed; therefore, my Friend, let us enjoy the present in Converse of Mutual Confidence and Freedom. — What, still Deaf to my Intreaty? Fare thee well, then, thou Political Sot. Fare the well, I say; and when thou hast brought thy Schemes of Freedom to Maturity, call upon me to see if I shall

B

be

be in an Humour to listen to thy *Utopian* Projects. — Adieu, old, vain Speculatist.

Marf. Nay, Prithee, *Pasquin*; do not leave me. I shall want thy Assistance towards coming at the real Meaning, if any there be, of the Bulky Pacquet in my Hand.

Pasq. Are your Letters then in Cypher, that you stand in need of an Assistant? If so, e'en send them to *E* —, where a certain stationed, spiritual Band will Decypher them upon Oath.

Marf. Upon Oath, *Pasquin*?

Pasq. Yes, upon Oath. Nay more; they shall give them any Meaning you shall require, provided your Liberality be as extensive as their Morality. You forget sure, a certain memorable Transaction in that virtuous Country, which happened not many Years ago.

Marf. I understand thee *Pasquin*. That Affair, indeed, was of a very extraordinary Nature. But in the present Case, I don't want the Aid of venal Decyphers; I want only that of a good Understanding. The Letters in my Hand are Intelligible, as to the Characters and Language, but so monstrously Inconsistent with each other, tho' upon the same Subject, and from Natives of the same Land, that without much Study and Labour, 'twill be impossible to form any just Idea of the true Intention of my Correspondents.

Pasq. I'll lay a thousand Crowns to a Pomegranate, your Correspondents are Islanders; ever various and inconstant. Your Letters are from the *West*, I suppose?

Marf. They are, Prithee, *Pasquin*, take them and try to make Sense of them, whilst I examine another Pacquet from *Turin*, which informs me
of

of the Alteration of Affairs at that Court, on the Marriage of his *Sardinian* Majesty.

Pasq. No, not I. Thou *Marforio*, art a dull, phlegmatick, plodding Fellow, cut out by Nature to encounter with the Absurdities of that Imaginarily happy and sagacious People. — But, pray what is the general Import of your Letters from your frothy, changeable Correspondents? Do they still complain of the Decay of their Trade; do they inveigh against the Oppressions of the Administration; are their Taxes encreased; is the Weight of their Debts unsupportable; or are they at last, grown so wise, as to see that they had been Ideots and mad Men for half a Century?

Marf. The Majority of them complain of all the Ills, and much more, than you have enumerated, while others amongst them, (the least in Number, tho' not in Power) are Industrious to propagate Notions of their general Freedom and Happiness. One would imagine the Complainants had Truth of their Side, if they were not known, in the main, to concur in those very Measures on which they found their Complaint. For Example; they complain of the Corruption of their Representatives. This Complaint is General; 'tis Annual. And yet, when they have the Power of changing Hands, and of Electing such Men as would secure them from the Designs of the Administration, they are so abandon'd as to drop their real Friends, and fix their Choice on those very Men they had been Complaining of for seven Years before. Monstrous Absurdity! They complain of the decrease of their Commerce, and yet they will chuse those very Men that have occasioned that Decrease. Nay, more, they chuse them, tho' at the same Time they are satisfied that they give their Suffrages to Men devoted to

a *Fellow Subject*, whose particular Views tend to the Impoverishment of the Community, in order to complete his Schemes of General Subjection. Of all the Nations under the Sun, this is most unfixedly and inconsistent. To hear them talk of their Liberty, one would think they had secured it beyond the Power of Fate. To hear them Expatiate on the Excellence of their Constitution, one would think it had been framed by *Solon* and *Lycurgus*, under the Direction of the Supreme Deity. To hear them exult and proclaim the Purity of their Religion, one would conclude the *Evangelists* had wrote for them alone. And yet, *Pasquin*, their Liberty is ****. Their Constitution, little better than ****, and their Religion, little less than down-right *****. This you and I know to be Fact; this, all the sound Divines and Statesmen in *Europe* know to be so, except their own, if any such are to be found amongst them.

Pasq. Unthinking *Marforio*! What, refuse a People Religion that had been so Pious as to raise an Immense Fund for Building Fifty Additional Churches in one City only; and that too, at a Time they were saddled with Two Hundred † Millions of Publick Debt, and were Groaning under the Weight of Taxes and Dearth of Commerce. Nay more, they made this Pious Provision at the Desire of the Sovereign that had not a Pallace in the *Metropolis* fit to Lodge her Majesties Coach-Horses. Wilt thou, I say, after so Glaring an Instance of their Piety, and Zeal for their Church, refuse them the Glory of Thinking themselves truly Religious and Orthodox? I should rather expect you would Eccho their Religious Fame to the Antipodes. Fy, Little

† Crowns,

tle *Marfy*, Retract, or by the Slipper of our *Pontiff*, I shall have but a wretched Opinion, of either thy Charity or Understanding.

Marf. Were I like thee, *Pasquin*, carry'd away with Appearances only, I might, with thee conclude, that People truly Religious from the Legislative Instance you mention of their Piety. But as my Researches into Occurrences of any Moment are never Superficial, I seldom fail of coming at the Genuine Springs or Motives that had given them Birth. Religion had the least, if any share, in the Transaction you so much Magnify. The Church-building Act was projected, partly to gratify the then Sovereign, and partly to lull the Episcopal Clergy into an unsafe Security. 'Twas obvious to all the World at that Time, that the Conventicles were throng'd, whilst the Churches were deserted from the Arts and Contrivances of a Party. The Churchmen, particularly the established Clergy, were alarmed; it was therefore necessary to gild the *Poinard* destined to give the Blow, and no Gilding was thought more likely to Delude, than that vast Addition to the Places of Publick Worship.

My Dear *Pasquin*, there is nothing more fallacious than the Actions and Professions of the Generality of Ministers, but particularly of those of the Nation under our present Consideration; there are rarely, if ever, actuated by any Principle; but that of Dear private Self-Interest, 'tis their Point in View, and they are steady in no Pursuit, but that one. They rise to Power by Clamour, Opposition and the Animosity of Party, and they continue their Influence, just so long as they are able to gratify the Avarice of some, and impose on others of the Voracious and Credulous of the Individuals that had raised them

to the Summit. Though that People had been, what they would persuade the World they are, Proof against Corruption, they would still be more easily wrought upon by an artful Minister than any other in *Europe*; from this certain Reason; that no People in *Europe* act with less Reflection, or see less into Futurity. But as they are more insatiable of Wealth, especially that Purloined from the Publick, than any Nation in the World, even the *Dutch* not excepted, a Minister who has the Disposal of all Employments, and of the publick Treasure, can never fail of Hoodwinking his Party, and continuing his Influence, especially whilst his Prince will see with no Eyes but the Minister's, whose Interest it is to guide him out of the Path of true Glory.

Pasq. Is it possible that so profuse and so extravagant a People as they are known to be both at home and abroad, can be so insatiable of Riches, and so susceptible of Corruption as you would make them?

Marf. Call to mind what has been said of our Countryman *Catiline*, and the Paradox will disappear. *Alieni appetentes, sui profusi*, may with equal Justice be applied here as there. Here Wealth is the Idol, the only Thing pursued whilst Virtue, either publick or private, is ****. The *Amor Patriæ* is counted a *Chimæra*, and to prefer the publick to private Interest, is a Doctrine absurd and obsolete.

It happens, indeed, sometimes, that a Minister, with all the Advantages I have mentioned above, will fall sooner than the Publick could imagine. But 'tis because he wants the Means of Corruption: For while that exists he must be safe where all are greedy to receive. You know, *Pasquin*, that that People are divided into two great Parties; and

and that one, tho' infinitely superior in Wealth as well as Number, has been Lorded over by the other for many Years. This, in one Sense, is owing to the Assiduity and Unanimity of the Minority, and to the Inactivity and Disunion of the Majority. The professed Principles of the latter are more virtuous and laudable ; but as they were seldom known to act up to their Professions they have been, I mean the Chiefs, constantly deserted and abandoned, whilst the others, with Principles more injurious to the Generality of the People, and less virtuous, have been as constantly abetted and supported, because they had been more steady in Friendship, and more consistent with themselves.

There is another Reason why an Administration chosen out of this Minority should exist longer than one taken from the Majority ; and it is observable the Fact was always so. For as the first has fewer to gratify than the latter, the Means of Corruption, or call it Gratification, if you will, is not so soon exhausted in the Hands of the one Side as the other. Thus it happens, that the present Minister in that Country has been able to support himself, for above sixteen Years, against the most violent, best conducted, civil Opposition that had been known, either in that or any other Country. But mistake me not, my Friend, when I mention this Opposition with an Air of Applause. It would, indeed, merit universal Applause was it founded on publick Good ; but, my dear *Pasquin*, I have told you what I am convinced to be true, that that amiable Virtue is unknown to the whole People, a very few excepted. The Opposition in question is chiefly, if not solely, founded in Avarice. The Opponents are secluded from the Advantages accruing

from Power and Employments, and herein consists the sole Mystery of the Opposition, however artfully it may be gilded. . Could the Minister find the Means of satiating the predominant Passion of his Opponents ; could he gorge them with Employments and Pensions, he might rule unmolested 'till he should fix the Power of his Master beyond the Reach of Party, and fill his own and his Lord's Coffers with all the Money in the Nation.

But without the Concurrence of the Opponents, I am much mistaken if he will not soon have the Means of attaining these premeditated Designs. For by the Letters now in my Hand, I understand he is cooking up a Project which will enable him to carry on all his Schemes into Execution. The young *Sicilian* Monarch has pointed out to him the alluring Path ; and if I know my Man, he is too much in his own Interest to be diverted from going into a Road that must lead him to the Height of his Ambition.

Pasq. Pray, which of the young *Spanish Machiavels* late Schemes has he set his Heart upon ; that of the temporal Inquisition ; that of reducing Religions to their primitive Poverty, or that of reducing the Interest of the National Debt so low as to starve all the Ratifia-drinking old Women in the Nation ?

Marf. One would really think, from the Continuance of his Power and Success, that he had none but old Women to deal with. — But to the Purpose of my Intelligence. He was beforehand with the beardless King, as to Laws to tie down his Fellow-subjects to actual Obedience, and the Reformation left him little Room to exercise his fleecing Talents on the Church. The last of the *Don's* Expedients for humbling his *Neopolitans*,

is that our Statesman is busily employed about. The Reducement of the Interest of their National Debt is the Scheme now on the Anvil, the Completion of which will enable the Projector to continue his Influence while he would wish to be at the Head of Affairs. If, with the Means already in his Hands, he has been able to form such a Party as have supported him against the Bent of a vast Majority, what may he not be able to do when he shall have acquired such additional Strength as must be the necessary Consequence of this Scheme? Two or three † Millions added to the Capital already in the Management of so consummate an Adept as our Schemist is allowed to be in a proper Application of Finances, must enable him, either to gain over or intirely crush his Opponents. And indeed, if one may judge of him from his past Behaviour, 'tis more likely he will soon throw off the Remains of the Mask and strike, without Ceremony or Reserve at the putrified Root of his Country's Freedom.

Pasq. It may be said, indeed, that some few of the Branches of that once flourishing and glorious Tree are become withered and sapless; but I cannot perceive how the Root can be said to be putrified while two Parts in three of the Legislative Power still remains in the Hands of those whose immediate Interest it is to preserve it.

Marf. I thought, my political Sceptick, I had, in a former Conference, satisfied thee concerning the State of Liberty in that once happy Country. I was in hopes I had convinced thee that little else but the Shadow of Freedom remains there. But thou art one of those that are never to be reasoned out of an Opinion once imbibed, however absurd or ill founded. Because
thou

† Crowns.

thou hadst heard it said, that in a certain Period of the last Century, that People were truly free, thou wilt needs have it that they must be always so. Because they had on many Occasions, made glorious Struggles in behalf of Freedom thou thinkest they will always do so whenever the fair Blessing is attacked. Thy Conclusion would not be much amiss if the People had been still what they were. If, like their Ancestors, their Breasts had glowed with Patriot Vertue; the same Sentiments, the same Actions might be expected from them. But, if they be so far degenerated as to have bartered away the Purity of the Gospel for Atheism and Deism, Debauchery and Luxury for Abstemiousness and Parcimony; if Infidelity and Sensuality have so far unhinged the Principles of Patriotism in their Souls as to be liable to every Impression an artful, corrupting Agent shall think fit to make upon their Minds. How long, think thee, will they be able to preserve the Shadow of their once boasted Liberty. As for the Substance, dost think it morally possible it could have subsisted to this Time amongst a People that had, for a Series of Years, thrown off all Regard for Posterity, for publick Justice, and for every Vertue necessary towards the well-being of the Community.

No *Pasquin*, that once religious, brave, virtuous, industrious People are become * * * * *. Our own Countrymen were, at one Time, possessed of all the Vertues human Nature is capable of, and yet thou knowest how shamefully they had contributed to their own Bondage. The *French* were free, and would be so still, if they had never courted Employments nor the Smiles of Princes and sycophant Ministers. All the Nations of the Earth would be free, as Nature

ture designed they should be, if they had withstood Corruption, and the false Ambition of tinsel Titles and Honours. Gods! that a Bribe, a Riband, a Title, or other silly Feather in a Fool's Cap, should induce a reasonable Being to swop away Liberty for Slavery! And yet, this we have seen, *Pasquin*, in a Multitude of Instances, since the skilful Statuary has struck us out into mortal Shape.

Pasq. Thou seemest to think that the present Despotism of the World is derived from Corruption only. When I say Corruption, I would not be understood that I think you mean that of Manners which enervates and debases the Soul so far as to render it susceptible of the worst of Impressions; but that Species of Corruption, founded in Avarice, with which the Rich and Ambitious are sometimes thought to undermine the Liberties of Communities. Now, for my Part, I should rather be of Opinion that Despotism owes its Being more to Force than that sort of Corruption you would found it upon:

Marf. That absolute Power exists by Force I won't deny; nor can you, that that very Force must necessarily have been first created, and afterwards nursed up by Corruption, that very Corruption founded in Avarice, from which, most undoubtedly, all inordinate Power derives its Original. Let us suppose an Individual become Popular from the publick Opinion of his Wisdom and Virtue, invested with Power for the Good of the Community. A limited Power it must be; for it cannot be supposed that any Society of Men would spontaneously delegate absolute Power to a Fellow Creature. The innate Freedom of Man does not admit of any Thing so repugnant to the Nature of Liberty. Let us inquire then, how
Power

Power so limited, becomes absolute, contrary to the Interest and Intention of those that had first delegated it. Why, thus ; Wealth being the Concomitant of Power, the Chief Magistrate accumulates Riches, with which he corrupts the Chiefs of the People, who seldom fail of drawing the Multitude into their Sentiments.

Pasq. Your Argument may have some Weight as to simple Monarchical Government ; but in such a mix'd Government as that of *B* —, where the People are in Possession of two Thirds of the Legislative Power, it would seem impracticable to erect that absolute Dominion you dread so much.

Marf. Still I see, *Pasquin*, you cannot be persuaded that that People are to be bribed of their Freedom. I wish I could see any Reason for my being of your Opinion. But I own to you that I cannot gain upon my self to look upon a People to be Free that concur in the Maintenance of a standing Army during a profound Tranquillity. An Army, in Time of Peace, was a Thing unknown to the Constitution of that Country ; nor can the Continuance of such Force as is now seen there, be intended for the Purposes of Liberty. Freedom and an armed Force are of the Nature of those Things that are incompatible. The History of all Nations confirm this Truth, and none more particularly than that of our own Country. You remember the dire Calamities occasioned by *Marius* and *Sylla*, invested for other Purposes than Slavery, with martial Authority. Did not the Prolongation of *Cæsar's* Commission in *Gaul*, enable him to destroy the best digested Commonwealth in the whole World. You cannot forget the Story of *Matho* and *Spendius* at *Carthage*, or that of the *Mamelukes* of *Egypt*. Call to Mind how the *Athenians*, a People superlatively wise, and jealous of Liberty,

lost

lost it by being *Bribed* by *Pisistratus* to allow him but *thirty Guards* only, for the Security of his Person. Remember how *Timophanes*, entrusted with the Command of but *four hundred armed Men* for the Defence of *Corinth*, became absolute Master of the Lives and Liberties of the Citizens. How *Agathocles* became Tyrant of *Syracusa* by being invested with the Command of the Army. Read the Accounts given by our Countryman *Spada* and *Bentivolio*, of the Power of an armed Force in the *Netherlands*, when a handful of *Spaniards* committed such Devastation, notwithstanding the Power and Wealth of the Subjects and the vast Number of fortified Towns possessed by native Noblemen.

But before that Period of Time, read in *Commines*, how *Philip* of *Burgundy*, a Prince distinguished by the Epithet *good*, destroyed the Liberty of the most opulent People then in *Europe*, with so small a Force as *five hundred Horse*. What *Charles*, surnamed the *Bold*, did afterwards in Consequence of a military Power, is recorded by numberless Authors. Did not *Louis XI.* with an Army less numerous than that now established in the *B——h* Empire, enslave the populous and extensive Kingdom of *France*? Did not *Francis Sforza* force himself into the absolute Dominion of *Milan*, by a small Army entrusted to his Command for the Safety of the unwary *Milanese*? And did not our own Countryman, *Olivaretto di Fermo* put all, or most of his principle Fellow Citizens to the Sword, and proclaimed himself their Prince with so despicable a Force as *one hundred Horse*, which he had the Address, by the Corruption of some of the chief Citizens, to get Leave to introduce into the City? Was it not an armed Force entrusted with *Gustavus Ericson*, after he had delivered

livered his Country from the Bondage of the *Danes*, that he had destroyed that Freedom it was raised to Defend. Innumerable are the Instances, may be brought to prove that Liberty, and a Standing Army are Inconsistent.

But to bring the Consideration home to the Point in Question; let it be remembered that an Army in the very Country, whose present State of Liberty you think so very safe, had trampled on the Freedom of that very Parliament that had raised it; that, in the Course of a few Years, that Army had set up Ten several Sorts of Government contrary to the Genius of the whole Nation and the Opinion of half their own Body; such is the Influence of a Commander over an Army, that he can Oblige them to act Mechanically, however the Sentiments of the Individuals of which the Corps is composed, may happen to differ from his own. When ever a People trust their Arms out of their own Hands, they must expect to be Slaves; for it is ridiculous to Imagine that Men will be Servants when they have it in their Power to become Masters. Let it not be urged that the Army under our present Consideration, are paid by the Publick, and therefore, properly speaking, are the Servants of the People. Frivulous Sophistry! Was not the Army of 1641 the same? Was not all the Armies that had ever enslaved their Fellow Subjects the same? Why shall we expect this armed Corps to be endowed with more Virtue than their Ancestors, or than all those we read of in History? I will venture to affirm that the present Generation are not more Pious, more Couragious, less Luxurious, less Immoral, or more publick spirited than they were about the middle of the last Century.

But,

But, what are the Reasons offered for the Continuance of this Army. Why first, that the late Hero of *Sweden* had intended either to Conquer for himself, or to introduce a *Popish* Prince upon the Throne. Monstrous Inconsistency! When the Inability of that unhappy Prince was evident to the whole World; and when it was also notorious, that if he had had the Power, his Enthusiasm was such as would never permit him to Use it in favour of one whose Religion was his Aversion. Next, the Designs of *Spain* were to be warded against; Reasoning as ridiculous as the other! Is it not a known Truth that the Naval Force of *Spain* is so infinitely Inferior to that of *B——*, that there is not a bare Possibility that ever she can be affected by any Embarkation from that distant Country. Then again, all was at Stake without an Army, considering that the *Emperor* was disobliged at the famous Treaty of *Hanover*. How was his Power, even his Naval Power, exaggerated on that Occasion, by a certain Pension'd Herd, tho' it was as clear as the Sun at Noon-Day, that he had no Intention to disturb his Neighbours, and that, tho' he had, he was not Master of one Ship in the World by which he could hope to execute his Designs. Next was the late War in Consequence of the *Polish* Election, the Pretext, not only of continuing but increasing the Number of Forces, tho' there was not a Man in the Nation did not know with Certainty, that it was absolutely resolved not to Interfere in that Quarrel.

Well, all those fanthom Apprehensions are vanished, and still the Army subsists. But, say the venal Creatures of Power, *Spain* is still in an ill Humour, and has shewed Inclination of Arming at *Barcelona*, or at the *Havanna*; no
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Matter which, either being of equal Concern to *B—*, in Point of Distance and Convenience. For my Part, *Pasquin*, I expect a few Posts will bring me Advice that an Additional Army will be raised to prevent the Designs of his Holiness, *Don Carlos* and the *Venetians* who are making some slow Steps towards arming Navally, against the *Turk*. Nay, I am not sure but that the Imperial Fleet of flat Shalloupes in the *Danube* will be urged as a Reason for Issuing out Commissions for Raising a Dozen, additional Regiments of Dragoons.

But to be more serious; is it not Obvious that an Army thus continued upon the most frivolous Pretences, must have a View injurious to Liberty? Every Body knows how an Army is capable of Influencing Elections of Parliament; what Middling Borough will venture to Vote against a Colonel of a Regiment, that has it in his Power to Distress the Inhabitants by Quartering; or what Parliament will venture to disoblige a Minister that has above *Thirty Thousand* disciplin'd Military Servants in his Retinue, besides as many more civil Attendants of all Degrees, Qualities and Denominations, that Riot by his Benevolence and Liberality. I don't know, *Pasquin*, if you be yet cured of your Incredulity; but I venture to Prognosticate, that if you should not, from what I have said, *it won't be many — before you hear that a certain Minister says, it is expected they will chuse the Officers of the Army, and that afterwards, he will Harangue the P—, and tell them in smooth, but very plain Words, that it is expected they will maintain them.*

Pasq. I confess I had a secret Regard for that once brave and free People, and was unwilling to Harbour any Opinion injurious to their publick

lick Virtue; but you have convinced me that one may carry his Prepossession too far. Let us then leave them to their Fate, to take a View of the other Nations of *Europe*. Since fair Liberty is no where to be found, as sure she is not, let us examine the Conduct and Interests of those States where once she was revered with Zeal and Piety. Our last Political Conference turned upon the late War in Consequence of the Election of *Poland*. You concluded with the Peace then, pretty far advanced between the Emperor and the Allies. I expect you will discuss that Matter more amply, for my Satisfaction, and I promise, in Return, to inform you of some Transactions, probably too trivial for the Observation of one so serious and profound as your Magisterial Worship, but which, however, may help to elucidate Matters of Moment and Consequence.

Marf. Thou hast ever been a Comical Rogue. Well, *Pasquin*, I will indulge thee for once, provided you promise not to reveal the Conversation to the first Inquisitive Inquirer.—But hush, these Bells proclaim the Approach of Day. Adieu till To-morrow Night.

DIALOGUE II.

Marf. **W**HY so Melancholy, my old Mercurial Friend? Has thy natural Gaity been disturbed by any fresh Instances of the Insults of *Spain* and *Naples*? Do the Distractions of the old shifting *Pontiff*, occasioned by the haughty Demands of the Father and Son, so engage your Attention, my Dabbler in Politicks,

as to become unfociable and forget the Purport of our Meeting? If the Gloom which hangs on thy Brow proceeds from thy Concern for our Sovereign, a little Time will restore thee to thy former Serenity and Quiet of Mind. For thou art to know, *Pasquin*, that tho' *Spain* be Tenacious and Steddy in her Demands and Designs on some other Potentates of *Europe*, she will not, cannot, be so towards the Spiritual Prince we serve. She may bully and bluster, Qualities natural to her, but while she is governed by a Prince of *Philip's* exemplar Piety and religious Zeal, there is no Danger that she will fall off from an Obedience to the *Holy See*, which the Pious Prince thinks so Essential an Article of his Faith. Besides, *Pasquin*, tho' it might be apprehended that *Philip* may give way to Female Art and Charms in Contradiction to his own Opinion, thou mayst securely Rely upon the refined Politicks of our Spiritual *Machiavels*. My Life they over-reach the *Don's*, and procure the Security by Art and Stratagem which the Spiritual Power alone was unable to acquire.

Pasq. I confess, *Marforio*, that the late unprecedented Attacks of *Spain* on our venerable Master added to that Thoughtfulness you observe me seized with. But, my Friend, there was yet another Cause, arising from your last Conversation. I ever was a Friend to Liberty, and thou knowest I was always an Advocate for that *Western Nation* you had lately produced in another Light than I either thought or wished them. I will own I was prejudiced in Favour of that People on whom I built for a Restoration of universal Freedom. But your Character of their present Depravity destroys all my Hopes, and partly Occasions that disquietude, so visible in my Countenance.

tenance. Pray tell me, my Sagacious Friend, what your Opinion is concerning the future Conduct or Fate of that once, Heroick People? Are they doomed to mix with the other Subservient Nations on the Continent, or shall Freedom and Order spring from their present State of Corruption?

Marf. If by Freedom and Order you mean a *Common-wealth*, there is not the least Probability that any Form of Government so Regular and Consistent with the Nature of a reasonable Being, will ever take Place in a Country where there is not Virtue enough to make a Common-wealth of a single Village. A Common-wealth, or Liberty in its largest Sense, has always been the Growth of Religion, Wisdom, Honesty, Frugality, Resolution and Publick Spirit. This was plain from the States of *Greece* and *Rome*, while yet these Virtues were Eminent, not only in the Chiefs, but likewise in the Commonalty. But my Dear *Pasquin*, where shall we find a People so endowed? Doest thou think that that virtuous, *Publick Spirit*, without which Liberty can never subsist, is to be met with amongst your favourite *Islanders*? Canst thou imagine that that *Amor Patriæ*, that Love of publick Good, so absolutely necessary towards acquiring and maintaining true Liberty, is rooted in the Minds of a People that abandon themselves to all the vicious Excesses human Nature is capable of? To Form a Common-wealth, to secure Liberty, there should be the Spirit of a *Codrus* or a *Curtius*. Where shall we find those amongst that People, who would Devote themselves or chuse to Die to preserve the Publick? Doest thou think any of them would with *Themistocles*, die rather than Fight against their Country? Are there any of them so virtuously Abstemious as *Cincinnatus*, who, tho' miserably

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Poor,

Poor, refused the Bribes of the *Samnites*, or as *Fabricus*, who rejected the offers of *Pyrrhus*, tho' at the Head of a powerful and victorious Army? Which of them, like *Socrates*, has so great a Difference to the Laws of their Country, as to die rather than fly and seek Protection in a foreign State?

Frugality, untinctured by *Avarice*, is the inseparable Companion of Liberty and publick Virtue; *Avarice* and *Luxury* are the Concomitants of Riches, and these have ever been the Corrupters of Mankind. While the *Spartans* observed the Laws of *Lycurgus*, prohibiting Gold, *Avarice* and *Luxury*, they were Free; they were Safe. Before the Conquest of *Asia*, *Rome* had Vertue, she had *Freedom*: But with the Spoils of the *East*, Wealth, *Luxury* and *Avarice* entered and vanquished the Vanquishers of the World. Where *Luxury* is countenanced, is cherished, *Avarice* will ever be Predominant; and wherever she governs, Corruption will always be prime Minister. Judge then, my Friend, what must become of a Land where fell *Corruption* sways uncontrouled. May it not be said of any State, and particularly that we are speaking of, where Venality and Corruption are held in Veneration, what *Ingurtha* said of this our Place of Abode? *O venalem Urbem, &c. O Venal City, and that soon would perish if a Purchaser could be found!*

Avarice, as it is productive of Corruption and Venality, is an Enemy to Society, to Liberty, to all human Happiness: Nor can it be doubted that a Vice so big with ill in this Life, will meet with Adequate Punishment in the next. But alas, the Doctrine of future Reward and Punishment, is as much condemn'd, as 'tis unfashionable amongst your Mock *Inamorato's* of Liberty! *Avarice* has monopolized

monopolized the Souls of the whole People to so great a Degree, that they are lost to every Consideration, but that suggested by that destructive Passion. You remember what old *Salust* had said of it in his Advice to *Julius Caesar*. *Sed Multo Maximum Patriæ, &c.* — “ The greatest Good you can do your Country, this City, your self, your Posterity, and indeed, all Mankind, is to take away, or at least to lessen, as far as human Nature and the Necessities of Life will permit, that eager Intenseness and Zeal for Money which now prevails, else there can be no just Administration of Affairs, Publick or Private, in War or Peace. For wherever this Lust of Riches invades, neither Discipline, wholesome Arts, or any Strength of Judgment are able to be so much upon the Guard, as intirely to prevent the Mind from Falling sooner or later under its Tyranny.” — A little after he describes the Monster which he advises the Dictator to destroy within the Extent of his Jurisdiction, in these memorable Words. — *Bellua fera, immanis, intoleranda est, &c.* “ Avarice is a Beast wild and full of insupportable Cruelty ; wherever it Journeys it spreads a vast Destruction all around. It lays waste Houses, Temples, Towns and Countries, impiously and promiscuously mingling Things Divine and Human. No Walls have Strength enough, nor Army Force enough to resist the Progress, whilst it robs all Men of Fame, Modesty, Children, Parents, Country, &c. Such was the Description of Avarice, by one of great Knowledge and Observation, who saw the dire Effects of it in this once celebrated City, which was, at that Time, hastening to its Ruin by the Prevalence of that hidious Vice, and which afterwards, from

the same Cause, sunk into an Abyss of Woe and Misery.

Pasq. Your Consequence is but too just, my Friend; Avarice was the Rock this once August City had split upon. And could I be sure that the Vice prevails there as much as it did here in *Salust's* Day, I should give up my Favourites as lost and undone.

Marf. Sure, sayst thou. — Are you sure there is an Inquisition here at *Rome*? Are you sure that Churchmen are actuated by Passions like other Men; that they are devoured by *Ambition* and *Avarice*, as Women are by *Vanity* and *Lasciviousness*, and that Ministers seldom consult any Interest, but that which leads them to Power and Wealth? If you be sure of these, *Pasquin*, so sure you may be, that your Favourites, as you call them, are Slaves to *Avarice*. Do not their general Elections prove the whole People to be seized with the Vice? What else but *Avarice* can induce Men of Forty, nay Sixty and Eighty Thousand Crowns a Year to barter their Integrity for Places and Pensions? Is it not Avarice, think you, which obliges Men of Wealth, Rank and Figure to be the wretched Tools of any undeserving Upstart in Power, because he has the Disposal of Places and Trusts? What is it but Avarice, that has banished Hospitality and true Generosity from amongst a People famed for those Virtues throughout the known World? It would be endless to enumerate the Proofs might be brought, that no People this Day in the World are greater Slaves to Avarice, than those whom you Contend for. The Vice has taken deep Root in the ***

Prithee

Prithee, *Pasquin*, trouble thy Head no more about them. Leave them to follow the ***** of ****, and to the Gratification of their Passions. They deserve not your Care or Compassion who seem to have none either for themselves or Posterity. Their *Popish* Ancestors had other Notions of Liberty; when they obliged those intrusted with the Care of Souls to read the *Great Charter* of their Freedom on all *Sundays* after divine Service, that so the People might be apprized of the Rights and Liberties which the Law of the Land had given them. This was a signal Instance of the publick Vertue of those Days. — But now I am sick of the Degeneracy of the present Age. So take Leave of the Subject.

Pasq. In truth, *Marforio*, thou hast given me a Surfeit of a People I own to have had a sincere Regard for, because I thought them virtuously studious in the Pursuit of bright Liberty. But I have done. — Now you may proceed in your intended Discussion of publick Affairs. I am all Attention.

Marf. You may remember, *Pasquin*, I told you in my Observations of the late Peace between the Catholick Powers, that the whole System of the Politics of *Europe* had been changed by that Treaty. It is true, this does not so evidently appear at present as it will hereafter; but even from that Part of the Treaty which has been already executed, I apprehend it plain to a Demonstration, that the States not in Communion with the Contracting Powers, have not been considered in that Light they either wished or expected. When I say, expected, don't imagine that I think they had any Right to expect that their particular Interest should be considered by any of the Powers concerned

cerned in that Treaty. From *France*, whom they had, for almost a Century, endeavoured to enfeeble and reduce, they could not form a bare Hope of Friendship and Benevolence; and from the *Emperor*. They had so scandalously abandoned him in his Distress, that it would have been Arrogance in them to hope he would retard or lessen the future Security of his own Family in Compliment to them. Your *Quondam* Favorites, for a long while at the Head of the *Protestant* Interest, have been the sole Authors of the Neglect towards the Emperor, which has occasioned the disregard shewn for the whole Body by this last Treaty. Without a fresh Enumeration of their Foibles and Mistakes since the Year 1714, I think our political Conferences of the last Year, must have convinced you that the present Gloom which hangs over the *Protestant* Interest, is solely owing to their Conduct.

You'll hardly think it, my Friend, that *Avarice* had guided these deluded People into all their Errors. Fears and Jealousies arising from * * * * *, were thought to have occasioned that Fluctuation in their Councils and Measures which was attended with an Expence that prevented the Dissolution of their Taxes, the Discharge of their national Debt, and the Encouragement of their Commerce. But, as no Apprehensions concerning Power or Title could, without Madness, be a Reason for the Continuance of Measures which, of themselves, were obviously destructive of the Means by which alone that Power was likely to be perpetrated; 'tis plain to me that the chief Agents were actuated by another more powerful Motive; and this, in my Opinion, could be no other than that of immediate *Gain*. For, as no Means so secure for continuing

ing Power, particularly that acquired by Election, as fixing it on the Affections of the Electors, it is certain that all Measures tending to the alienating that Affection, must be destructive of the End proposed. Now, as the Continuance of Taxes; the Non-payment of Debts, and a disregard for Trade, could not be supposed to be attended with general Affection, it is manifest that *Avarice* got the better of all other Considerations, and that it is to the Gratification of that Passion alone, we are to impute the Instability of those Measures that had necessarily created such Expences as furnished the Agents with Opportunities and Means of acquiring Wealth.

To strengthen this Argument; if *Avarice* had not been the Basis of all their Actions, would they have done a flagrant ***** to a necessary and powerful Prince in Communion with themselves? Would they have disobliged one whose natural Interest it would have been, without such a Provocation, to concur with them on all Occasions in Maintenance of the Common Cause? Would they, on the other Hand, have projected an *Alliance*, barely for the sake of Oeconomy, which has, and will be productive of an unsafe Coldness between them and a natural and necessary *Ally* nearer home? These Mistakes, *Pasquin*, not to mention many others I could produce, prove that *Avarice*, as it had directed all their Councils, contributed solely towards cementing that Union between the *Catholick* Powers, which they have lately taken so much Pains to dissolve.

For this Purpose was an expensive Treaty entered into with *Denmark*; to this End were extravagant Sums employed at *Stockholm*. In this View was the late *Alliance* with a petty Prince of the

the House of S——. In this View also, are all the powerless *Protestant* Sovereigns of G—— become Pensioners of —. And to this End were two successive, unp—— *Journies* to the North. But —

Pasq. Give me Leave, *Marforio*, to tell you that if you are no better informed of other Transactions than you seem to be concerning the Motive of the two Journeys you mentioned, you have been greatly imposed upon. The Interest of the Publick, indeed, was the Pretence for taking those Jaunts; but, my good old Friend, allow me to tell you for a Certainty, that the Publick was not, in the least, concerned in them Gambols. No, no, *Marforio*, a nobler Passion, I mean when honourably and justly directed, than Avarice, dictated on those Occasions. A certain little *Deity*, powerful in the most exalted Breasts, inspired and contrived those *Parties de plaisir*. Take upon my Word, my little *Marfi*, who, you know, am an Adept in sifting to the Bottom of an amorous Intrigue, that those Excursions had like to have given the Palpitation to a certain great L——, and her Favourite Rent-gatherer. They foresaw the Danger, and for that Reason, the Person most concerned in Interest, was willing to be passive, and with the Self-denial of a Stoick, condescended to ***** But as *Cupid* ever delights in Difficulties and Dangers, there was no reasoning the Votary out of his premeditated Design of travelling in quest of Amusement. It is true, he repented him that he had not agreed to the Proposal made to him for bringing his Pleasures —; but the Danger once over, he was, as he still is, determined to have his Humour his own Way. As for publick Murmurings they

they are Matters below the Notice of a vigorous Lover with replete Coffers, and attended by a numerous obsequious Retinue.

Marf. Pleasure, or the Inspection of it, being your peculiar Province, I shan't take upon me to arraign your Account of this Matter. All I shall say of it at present is, that the Sweet's of ***** Pleasures are ever accompanied with distasteful Bitters; whether or no this will happen or not in the Case before us, I leave Time to unfold. ——— But to the Purpose in hand. ———

Every String was touched upon; every Pulse was felt in order to prevent a good Understanding between the Houses of *Austria* and *Bourbon*; but Hostilities being ceased, and Preliminaries being published, the Plan was changed from absolute Prevention into Protraction, in hopes some lucky Birth or Death might intervene. For you are to know, *Pasquin*, that the ever-famous *B---* Pilot having more than once escaped Shipwreck by the intervening Death of some neighbouring Commanders, or Chief Agents, he is too apt ever since to rely upon his good Fortune only, where a wise Man would and might act so as to leave nothing or but very little to Chance.

During the Continuance of the War the King of *Sardinia* was tampered with to drop his new Allies; but the gallant Prince was too tender of his Honour to listen to the lucrative Offers that were made him to break his Faith. But the sagacious Pilot's Discernment on that critical Occasion was very conspicuous in his Choice of an *under Agent* at the Court of *Turin*. Well, failing of Success here, the next *Tentative* was made on the Queen of *Spain*; but that failing also by the superior Skill and Industry of the equitable *Mediator* of the Peace, as I had observed to you in
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my Conferences of last Year, it was resolved to bully *Sp* — into a Negociation she was not to be either bribed or reasoned into. I say bribed, because it is the known Practice of our political *Pilot* whenever he is pinched. To this Purpose, was a trifling Misunderstanding occasioned by a senseless *Punctilio*, widened, at least, endeavoured to be widened, into an absolute Breach, and a formidable naval Force dispatched to the *Tagus*.

This Step, as it could not fail of adding to that Disgust which had for many Years subsisted between *Sp* — and *B* —, was looked upon by the more consummate Statesmen of *Europe*, as a Master-piece in the bungling Part of the Art. They could not conceive what should induce *one* at the Head of Affairs of a Nation subsisting by Trade, to lay hold of every frivolous Occasion for destroying all Harmony between his Country, and *one* whose Friendship it would be her Interest to Cherish and cultivate. But, with Statesmen of the Complexion of our *Pilot*, the Publick will ever give way to private Interest. Taxes were not to be continued without Expences, and Expences could not well be contrived without Armaments. The Articles of private Pensions ran very high, and therefore it was necessary to find Employments, that should answer the Purposes of Pensions. Besides, from Armaments both by Sea and Land, the private *Emoluments* of a Minister are known to arise.

But our *Pilot's* Scheme was much deeper laid than the World imagined. For at the Time that he affected to intimidate *Sp* —, she was to be caressed and cajoled by another Channel. The secondary Minister of *France* was made Choice of for this End. This Man naturally bold and enterprizing where Wealth was the Object, was raised from

from almost the Lees of the People, and had arrived to Power by low Cunning and Chance, like our Pilot himself. Well, *Monsieur Ch——* was B——'d, was gained to inspire the Q—— of Sp—— with thirst of Glory and fresh Conquest. She was to be persuaded that though the *Pilot* had put his Country to an enormous Expence in fitting out a Fleet for the *Tagus*, that very Fleet should be made subservient to the particular Interest of her Family if she would agree not to evacuate *Tuscany* and *Parma*, in Consequence of a Treaty that had been conducted without her Knowledge or Consent. The Keeper of the Seals was to insinuate, that the whole Power of B——, and of the *Protestants* in general, should be employed, not only in Favour of her Eldest Son in *Italy*, but likewise that of her *Second* should be supported in the Recovery of the *Austrian Netherlands*. That he would take upon him to bring the *Cardinal*, and consequently *France*, into all her Measures, as soon as the *Emperor's* Hands should be full of an approaching War with the *Turk* in Consequence of his Engagements with *Russia*.

The *Frenchman*, whether he was in earnest, or whether he was only willing to appear so, in order to gratify his Munificent *Employer*, made the Overture with so great Art and Delicacy, that the aspiring Princess had almost swallowed the Bait when the subtle *Pat—o* interfered with his usual Address. He laid before her the Improbability of Success, and the certain Dangers that would attend an Attempt of thwarting so just and salutary Measures as had been taken for establishing true Concord and perpetual Unity between all the *Catholick* Powers of *Europe*. He told her, that though he was not let into the
whole

whole Secret of the Treaty between *France* and the *Emperor*, yet he was satisfied from the known Ability and Virtue of the *Mediator*, that not only the particular Interest of her Family, but also that of the *Catholicks* in general, were provided for and considered with the greatest Condour and most impartial Equity. That it would be inconsistent with the Piety or Character of a *Catholick* Queen to obstruct a Treaty purely calculated for the Propagation of the Faith she professed, and that it was to be feared, however great her Power was with the King her Consort, she should never be able to persuade him into Measures so very repugnant to his way of thinking.

The faithful judicious Minister went further, and convinced his Royal Mistress that as *France* was the only Power in *Europe* capable either of obstructing or promoting the Interest of her House, it would be as dangerous to irritate her too far, as it would be prudent to gain her by Coolness and Sincerity. That she was fully determined to annex the *Austrian Netherlands*, which he apprehended was the Foundation of the late Treaty, to her other Dominions, and that as any Steps towards defeating the End she proposed, would render her implacable, and, perhaps, occasion a Breach never to be healed, it would be highly imprudent to give into Measures that must necessarily provoke her.

But though the experienced Statesman advised his Mistress against going in earnest into *Mon-sieur Ch—n's*, I should have said, the *Pilot's* frothy Scheme, he persuaded her to shew a seeming Approbation of it for two Reasons. First, that the Schemists might loose Time, and consequently be prevented in any Attempts they could be supposed to make at the Court of *Vienna*; and next, that

that by the addittional Weight of the Protestant Powers, a Match for her Son, with the youngest *Arch-Dutchess*, might be brought to bear.

For these purposes the Keeper of the Seals was encouraged, a secret Correspondence was opened, and in Consequence of his Advice, the Evacuations in *Italy* were delay'd, till Means should be found for Gaining upon *France*, to join in an Application to the *Emperor* for his youngest Daughter.

Paſq. Did *France* then shew a Disinclination to an Alliance between a Branch of her House, and the Imperial Family?

Marf. She did, *Parſquin*; and solely for this Reason, that as such an Alliance might one Day raise *Don Carlos* to the Imperial Throne, she was unwilling that a younger Branch should have a Chance of Eclipsing the Elder, which could scarce fail in Time, considering the want of Progeny and infirm Constitution of the Prince of *Aſt——s*. There is no Accounting reasonably, for the Whims and Jealousies of Princes in general; but to do Justice to the virtuous young Monarch of *France*, he was inspired, on this Occasion, with a Passion unknown to his generous, honest Soul. The Keeper of the Seals was the Person that propagated this injurious, unnatural Doctrine in the *French* Cabinet; but tho' he gilded it with the specious Covering, of regard for the Glory and Grandure of his Prince as Head of the *Bourbon* Family, yet we know that he had received his Instructions concerning that Point, along with a Bill of Exchange from *L——n* for a Hundred thousand Crowns.

The Power, which had added Weight to *Cho——n's* Reasoning, begining to decline, his eclipsing Doctrine was no longer adheared to with that Heat and Violence

lence he had inspired when he was in his Meridian. Signor *Pat——o* was informed of a Change in the Stile of the *French* Court, and thought it now a proper Season for feeling her Pulse in Relation to the intended Alliance for *Don Carlos*. But as it was necessary, before he should make the Experiment, to learn how the Emperor stood inclined, he commissioned that able Politician Cardinal *Alb——i* to find Means to sound the Court of *Vienna*, acquainting him at the same time, with the Change observed in the Language of the *French* Court.

The experienced Prelate being thoroughly acquainted with the Capacity and Integrity of * * * * *, who had successfully mediated between *France* and the *Emperor*, communicated to him without Reserve, the Nature of his Instructions, and besought him to permit him to let the Court of *Spain* know that he was willing the Negotiation should pass thro' his Hands. The Prince, of whom the Queen of *Spain* had entertained a slight Jealousy on Account of his late Mediation, was glad of an Opportunity to give her this Proof of his Regard for her Family; and for this Reason, as well as that he believed the Point to be treated, would be relished by all the Parties concerned, he acquiesced in the Cardinal's Request. The Queen of *Spain*, who knew no Man in the World so capable of conducting an Affair of this Delicacy, as the * * * * * wrote to him the most engaging, affectionate Letter she was capable of, leaving it intirely to him to adjust the Point in such Manner as he should think proper; and at the same Time, commanded Duke *Mont——* to observe all Orders that should come to him from * * * * * concerning the Evacuation.

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The Negotiator, foreseeing some Difficulties both at *Vienna* and *Paris*, ordered the *Spanish* General to form new Pretences for retarding the stipulated Evacuation, that he might the better introduce the intended Alliance, as the only Means for satisfying *Spain*, and putting an End to all the Difficulties raised by her from Time to Time.

As the *Emperor* and King of *France* had had late Experience of the Negotiators impartiality, his Overtures on this Occasion, were received by both, with the greatest Regard and Deference. He met with no great Difficulty in convincing the last, that it would be for the Advantage and Glory of his House to enlarge the Dominions, and fix the Power of a Prince of his Blood, and that, tho' he should even become Emperor from the Consequence of the intended Alliance, it would add Lustre to his Family without eclipsing or diminishing that more substantial Lustre and Glory of the Crown he wore, the most splendid and powerful in the World. He put him in Mind of the very House which was to be sunk in his own, of which, the younger Branch, tho' raised to the Imperial Crown, acquired not the Glory, nor had it the Lustre or Strength of the Eldest, which remained in *Spain*. The young Monarch was so captivated with the Force and Charms of his reasoning, and so satisfy'd of his Friendship and Impartiality, that he not only went in to all his Views, but heartily concurred with him in the Demand of the Imperial Princess.

The Emperor who had, as it were, adopted the Family of *Lorrain* by bestowing his eldest on the first of that House, was to be managed with the utmost Delicacy and Circumspection. The Negotiator therefore, with great Force and Ad-
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dress, expatiated on the Power of the House of *Bourbon*, and the Inabilities and Perfidy of those from whom alone he might expect Succour against that Power. That, as this was his Motive for concluding the late Treaty with *France*, he would find, upon Reflection, the same Reason ought to determine him to strengthen his Female House with the only Alliance in *Europe*, capable of Supporting any Disposition he should be inclined to make of his vast and desjointed Dominions. That it would be impossible for the Princes of *Lorrain*, after his decease, to preserve themselves against the united Force of the House of *Bourbon*; nay, tho' one of them should be raised to the Imperial Crown, which he put him in Mind, would be a Matter of great doubt, considering the Influence which *France* would not fail to have in the Electoral College. That the disposal of his youngest, in the Manner proposed, was the only Means for securing to his eldest Daughter his *German* Dominions; and as for those he had in *Italy*, the Negotiator could not see how they were to be secured against the Power of the House of *Bourbon*, but by a Cession of them in Favour of his Child, in Consideration of this Alliance. That, as a Parent, the first Consideration should be the future personal Advantage of his Children, which, without any doubt, would be far better secured by this Alliance than any other in *Europe*. That, as a political Father of his People, to whom he ow'd rather more than to his own Off-spring, it was not possible for him to give them more convincing Proofs of his Tenderness and Regard, than by agreeing to an Alliance that was likely to secure to them the Blessings of Peace. He put his Imperial Majesty in Mind of the Letter, as well as Spirit and Intention of some
secret

secret Articles in the late Treaty, that tended to an Union of the Catholick Powers for Righting the *Injured*, and the Establishment of Faith throughout *Europe*, and made it evident to him, that without this Alliance, the Thing would be precarious, if not impracticable. Upon the Whole, the Negotiation was crowned with Success, and the Wise impartial *Negotiator* loaded with Thanks and Applause by all the Parties concerned.

These were the Steps, this the Canal, by which an Alliance, so much the Interest of all the Catholick Powers of *Europe*, was brought to a Conclusion. The Demand of the Arch-Dutchess by Count *Fuenclara*, was Matter of Form only; and the dubious Answer made to it was concerted between all the Powers concerned. It was not yet Time to promulgate an Alliance that Strikes at the very Root of the Protestant Interest. When the Emperor is disengaged, and *France* and *Spain* shall have taken Breath, you will not only find that this Match takes Place, but also, that the secret Articles of the late Treaty will be published and executed with Vigour and Sincerity.

But to return to our political *Pilot* and his *Pen-siner*. As soon as the Q— of Sp— had Advice of the Success of the **** *Negotiator*, she informed the Court of *France* of the secret Cabals and Intrigues of her entrusted Minister; and by this Means only was the Fall of Monsieur Cho—n compleated. What has been published concerning Monsieur *Vaug—n's* Strong Box, I mean as to the Papers said to have been found in it, was Fable and Farce.

You will observe *Pasquin*, upon the Whole of this Alliance between the Houses of *Bourbon* and *Austria*, that it was not hoped for by *Spain*, nor so much as thought of by *France* or the *Emperor*,

and that nothing but the immediate Hand of Providence, which had directed our refined Schemist the *Pilot*, or his judicious *Brother*, could have so suddenly compleated a Work of so great Weight and Concern. The *B—— Machiavels* may be likened to Tinkers, who are known to make many Holes in Endeavouring to stop one. Adieu, my Friend, the Sun already peeps above the Horizon.

D I A L O G U E I I I .

Pasq. **W**ELCOME, my dear *Marforio*; thou art come most Opportunely to assist me with thy unerring Judgment, towards determining an Affair of Delicacy, upon which depends a Wager of Consequence. A Knot of about a dozen Foreigners of different Nations, got about me this Morning, and beseeched me with great Civility, to take upon me the Arbitration of a Dispute that had arisen between them, concerning the personal Merit of their several Sovereigns. In vain did I plead my Inability, beseeching the Company to excuse me, and fix their choice on you, that had apply'd your self chiefly to political Researches. Some of them, indeed, were willing you should be joined with me, but one, of two *Eng——* amongst them, objected to you as one that had, last Year, betray'd an unpardonable Partiality in your Observations of the late Peace. He allowed you had given manifest Proof of your deep Knowledge in the Affairs of *Europe*; but that your Attachment to *Popery* had clouded your Understanding when ever you treated of his Country, or Country-Men. His *Compatriot*, a Man of Politeness, and good Understanding, justified

justified with great Force, your Charge against his Nation; adding, that it was plain from the whole Tenor of those Observations that you intended, rather a Correction, than a Reflection, on either the Religion, or Politicks of his Country. That like a faithful Friend, you kindly pointed out where the Mistakes of her Conduct, in order to an Amendment; and that, therefore, he thought the whole People could not in Justice to themselves, do less than erect a Statue to your Honour in one of the principal Squares of their Capital.

Marf. It is somewhat odd, methinks, that two of the same Nation, and I suppose, of the same Religion, should betray in your Presence, Sentiments so very Opposite concerning my Observations of their common Soil.

Pasq. It is more odd, *Marforio*, to hear you, that are perfectly acquainted with the Genius of the People, their party Animosities, and their natural Unsteadiness, wonder at their disagreeing, either at Home or Abroad. But to set you right in this Matter, you are to know that one of these Gentlemen is but just arrived from *Eng*—; the other has not been there for almost half a Century. Time and Observation have worn off the Prejudice of Birth in the latter, while the other is bewildered in the Maze of a bad Education, and worse Example. The one seems to mourn the Degeneracy of his Country-men, the other to think, that Immorality and Corruption are the Corner Stones of their Freedom.

Marf. How comes it that Men differing so much in their Way of Thinking, should concur in their Opinion concerning the Virtue, or Merit of their Prince?

Pasq. They do not, if you mean a Concurrence in Opinion of the same Prince; for you must understand, *****

Marf. Now you have set the Matter in a clear Light. Well; but, my good Friend, of what Service can I be to you, towards determining this Wager?

Pasq. You shall direct my Judgment by faithfully Sketching out the Characters of the present Princes of *Europe*: And as in so doing, you'll naturally have Occasion to observe on the political Interest of the several Nations they govern, I don't see, but that a Research of this Kind will answer the Purpose of our present Interview. I am engaged in Honour to publish my Award To-morrow in the Forenoon; therefore, my wary Friend, no Expostulation, but proceed.

Marf. I wish, *Pasquin*, thy Integrity mayn't have been corrupted by that avow'd Advocate of Corruption, you just now mentioned.

Pasq. No Faith, tho' I frankly own to you, he came to me this Evening, and claped a Bill of *Belloni's* for a thousand Crowns, into my Fist.

Marf. You see I was not wrong in my Conjecture. But Prithee, *Pasquin*, how did you bear so flagrant an Attack upon your Honour?

Pasq. With the Scorn and Contempt of my ancient, heroick Fellow-Citizens. I told the base corrupting Agent that he should remember I was a *Roman*, an old virtuous *Roman*, who scorned to betray my Trust, to gratify my Avarice, or to ingratiate my self to the greatest Monarch in the World. I flung his poisoning Paper at his Head, and bid him never see my Face more.

Marf.

Marf. Well, my good old virtuous Friend, and did he take your Lecture patiently, and leave you?

Pasq. No, he made a thousand Apologies, assuring me, I had mistook his Intention, and that he was the farthest in the World from a Design to corrupt my Integrity. That he was employ'd from home, to get Intelligence in a certain Family, and that the Bill was purely intended for that Purpose alone. That as to any Award I should think proper to make concerning the Superiority of Princes, it was perfectly indifferent to him, upon whom my Choice should Fall; for that he was one of the Millions in his Country, who did not care a Button, whether they had a virtuous, or vicious Prince, provided he had a *N— of W—*, and let the Ministers share with him in the Publick—He was going on in this Strain when a certain young Prince chanced to come by, going to visit a Lady of Quality of his own Country. 'That, said he, my noble *Signor Pasquin*, 'is the Youth, whose Conduct I would fain employ you about. 'Tis whisper'd they are preparing his travelling Equipage; now if you 'will undertake to inform me with the Secrets 'of his Journey, I promise to make this Bill 'One Hundred Thousand Crowns. For you 'must know, that I have an unlimited Credit 'for these Purposes, from our generous Prime 'M—.'

Marf. I hope you agreed to take the Money without any more Design to serve him faithfully than Numbers of those who Riot here at his weak Employers Expence. It would be no Breach of Honour, *Pasquin*, to delude so shameless a Political Bungler. It is incredible, my Friend, what Sums are employed for this infamous Pur-

pose all over *Europe*, particularly here, at *Madrid*, *Paris*, and *Avignon*. Our *Sextus V.* had not more Spies in his Pay, than that Empirick in Politicks; but the Difference lies here; that the *Pontiff's* Views tended ever to the Advancement of Piety, Justice, and the Glory of the Creator; but this Man's Considerations are quite of a different Complexion. As *Sextus* was one of deep Penetration himself, he chose his Emissaries with Judgment, and was therefore faithfully served: But as this Man's Judgment lies chiefly in little Quirks and shallow Cunning, he Squanders the publick Treasure on Creatures without Art or Address, who have for the most Part, neither Talents, or Power to render him Service. You may judge of his Discernment, in his Choice of so soft a Wretch as this, that had been Tampering with you.

It is true, there are some of our Countrymen, Men of Parts and Dept, that take of his Money pretty plentifully; nay, there are some, even in the very Family he would have observed, that are his Pensioners, and they are known too; but they that can serve him, assuredly, don't; nor could they to any great Purpose, tho' they were inclined. For, *Pasquin*, when a Man is his own Secretary in all Matters of Moment; and where no Man in *Europe* understands the Cabinet better, 'tis Difficult to dive into his Secrets. Witness, some great, late Transactions of his Conducting. When your Tempter comes to you next, recommend to him to Address himself for Intelligence to the noble Lady, who had been honoured by the * * * Youth: He may form Hopes that one *Aly'd* as that Lady is, may Interest herself at his Instance. But, as much a Fool as he is, I suppose he is not unacquainted with

with the good Sense and heroick Virtue of that distinguished *Beauty*, who has worn off her Prejudices, as indeed most of her Countrymen and Women do, more or less, that observe and reside for any Time amongst us. O, my dear *Pasquin*! How happy would that People be, could they divest themselves of their Avarice, Venality, Impiety and Prejudice! Then would they be happy in the fullest Extent of the Epithet. But alas. —

The Travels, *Pasquin*, of which *Signor A* —, would be informed, are more Mysterious, than most Men think they are; tho' to View the Matter simply, as a Tour of Pleasure and Edification, one would not imagine it could be attended with any Consequence of Moment. But my tempted Companion, 'tis not safe to let thee into Secrets that are attacked by one, who has Millions at Command.

Pasq. Though I believe thee but in jest, *Marfario*, I cannot bear any thing like an Insinuation which reflects so nearly on my Honour. I am satisfied you cannot entertain so mean an Opinion of my Virtue as to imagine me capable of a base Action for Lucre. I may, indeed, blab out Secrets inconsiderately, but never with Design to injure nor from any Motive founded in Corruption. You have known me for Ages, and can vouch for my Integrity, either actual or intentional —.

Marf. I know thee, my Friend, for an honest, virtuous Block that has stood the Threats and Bribes of Popes, Emperors, Kings, Cardinals and Ministers. Be calm, my testy Man of Honour, and be satisfied, that though I knew you to be an admirer of certain Islanders, I never apprehended you could be infected with their Vices.
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No, *Pasquin*, I knew thee to be an old *Roman*, incapable of Corruption in any Shape. — But to the Purpose of your Award. Pray, in what Manner do you design to proceed in your Examination of the several Princes of *Europe*? Do you intend to consider their private, personal Qualifications only, which in Truth, is the Manner a great and good Man would wish to be considered, or do you intend they shall stand or fall as Rulers and Legislators?

Pasq. From what I was able to gather from those concerned in the Consequence of my Award, I am only to determine upon their immediate, private, personal Merit, abstracted from their Power or Figure as Sovereigns.

Marf. In an Examine of this Nature, Religion should be intirely out of the Question, for you may remember that our great *Sixtus* thought so when he had spoken such mighty Things of *Elizabeth* and *Henry IV.* when he said, that to restore the golden Age, the World should be governed by and divided between *Elizabeth*, *Henry*, *Philip II.* and *Sixtus*, 'twas plain he was of Opinion a Man might be Great and Good, however he might be prejudiced by Education in Matters of Religion. *Greece* and this our own Country, furnish innumerable Examples of Men illustrious for Wisdom, Piety, Magnanimity and Virtue of every Complexion, though they wanted the Lights of true Religion. I would not be understood to depreciate Religion, which certainly guides to Virtue when judiciously tempered with Prudence and Moderation. A Man truly Religious can never be a bad Man. But he without any Religion can never be truly Good. And that Man may be justly said to be without any who for Interest, changes and conforms to Times and Seasons.

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To form a true Judgment of the present Princes of *Europe* it will be necessary to examine first, who are qualified to be put upon the List of Candidates, and next, who are intirely unworthy of it. By this Means much Trouble will be saved; for I will take upon me to say that the Number will soon be reduced to a very few. You'll agree that a Prince devour'd by *Avarice* is *Ipso facto*, precluded, tho' he should otherwise be endow'd with Wisdom, Piety, Chastity, Patience and Resolution. But if he be avowedly destitute of any of those Vertues, his very Memory should be held in detestation. You'll likewise admit that a Rash, Haughty, Inconsiderate, Impoverishing, Irresolute Enthustiastick Prince has no Title to your Attention, any more, than one that should endeavour to establish the Grandeur of his own Family at the Expence of his Honour and even his Soul. You'll exclude, I suppose, any Prince implicitly govern'd by the Base and Weak of either Sex; and all those that have but just Sense enough to know when they are well served. Such as have hitherto given no Proofs either of their Virtue or Vice have no Claim, however the Steadiness and Virtue of their Ministers may have rais'd their Characters or extended their Dominions.

By scrutinizing in this Manner, *Pasquin*, you'll find yourself indispensibly oblig'd to reduce the Number of the Candidates to *three*; and, considering the present depravity of Man, you may thank Heaven there are so many.

Pas. Your Sentiments, or I am much mistaken, square with mine; for I had, before I saw you, determined to make my Award in favour of one of three who are, I suppose the very same you would recommend to my Choice.

Marf.

Marf. Though, you always were an Admirer of publick Virtue, yet *Pasquin*, as you were also, an Instrument and Encourager of Intrigues authoriz'd by the little Amorous Deity, I don't know whether we agree in Opinion: For the Princes, who I think are intitled to your Choice, have not been known, either in the Single or Matrimonial State, to trespass upon the Virtue of Chastity.

Pasq. It is true, *Marforio*, I had often busied myself in Intrigues of Love, but they were always within the virtuous Bounds of strict Honour. I never promoted a Breach of Conjugal Vows, which *Louis XIV.* were he living, could vouch for. That Prince, who, abstracted from his Amorous Weaknesses, was undoubtedly the perfectedst and greatest Man of his time, could never bribe me, and many Attempts he made upon my Vertue, to employ my Talents in favour of his Criminal Pleasures. On the Contrary, I prevented his Attempts on Cardinal *Mazevin's* Neice; I broke the Neck, after the first Sally of his Heat was over, of his Converse with *Mademoiselle de Fontanges*; I inspired *Mademoiselle Lavalier* with a Desire for the Veil as soon as she was rid of the Royal Burthen, and *Montespan* was supplanted by old *Scarron's* Widow by means of my Art and Vertue. I failed indeed, in most of my Attempts in favour of the ——— Monarchs, though I can safely say, that I had constantly, particularly for these * * * * Years, employed all my virtuous Cunning to prevent their criminal Excesses: But, *Marfario*, I will, at any other Time, account for my late want of Success in this particular. For the present, you shall be judge if my Choice be not identically the same with yours.

The first of the three is that virtuous and consummate Statesman, the Mediator of the late glorious

rious Peace, a ———, without Vice, without Stain or Blot, but such as his Enemies, the Enemies of Vertue, would injuriously fix upon him; A——, whose Misfortunes have contributed to his Glory as much as they reflect Dishonour on those that have occasioned them. A—— that wants only to be truly known to be universally respected, to be revered and adored. I am so charmed with the personal Merit of this amiable Man, that I should be tempted to Award in his Favour, without further Deliberation, if my Difference to your Opinion did not oblige me to wait for yours.

Marf. Delay not then any longer, my Friend, to fix your Choice. For though I have a very high Opinion of the Virtue of the D—— of L—— and the K—— of S——a, who, I think, are the remaining two of your three Favourites, yet I cannot help agreeing with you that the Preheminency is justly due to the ——— Mediator. And for this Reason, that though they may equal him in Piety, Wisdom, Generosity, Affability, Humanity and Magnanimity, their Prosperity did not admit of their giving such substantial Proof as he has, of another Virtue, more necessary and exalted than any Human Nature is capable of. Were our old Master, the great *Sextus*, living at this Time, we should hear him repeat, in Favour of these extraordinary Parsonages, what he said of his great Cotemporaries, in Relation to the Return of the golden Age.

But, *Pasquin*, shan't you be afraid of the Consequence of preferring one, obscure in every Thing but his Virtue, to all the mighty Sovereigns of *Europe*? Shan't you be afraid that the *Frenchman* will talk you to Death; that the *Spaniard* will challenge you to Combat; that the *Portuguese* will either stab you in the Dark, or
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arraign you of *Judaism*; that the *Austrian* will drink you off your Pedestal; that the *Prussian* will enlist you among the tall Grenadiers; that the *Russian* will knock you down, or send you to *Siberia*, that the *Swede* will load you with Copper Coin, that the *Pole* will dispose of you as he does of his Patrimony of Slaves; that the *Dane* will force an exchange of his Carrot Locks upon you, and that the Bearer of *Belloni's* Bill will infect you with Deism and Avarice?

Pasq. Oh! Fear not my Friend, for methat am covered with the impenetrable Shield of Impartiality. If I could apprend any Danger, 'twould be from the Advocate of Infidelity and Corruption; but even there, I am safe, because of the Disagreement of his Countrymen. But, *Marforio*, have not you forgot when you reduced the Number of Candidates to three only; or did you purposely omit mentioning K—S—s, because he was not born to Sovereignty? For it must be admitted he was a Prince of great personal Merit, that had distinguished himself by a pious and manly Resignation, for which Providence has abundantly rewarded him, even in this Life.

Marf. You have mentioned the Reason for which I did not include him in the List. I have ever thought him a Pattern of Virtue, but as he is to be considered as a private Man, in Comparison of those born to Expectations, I did not think he had a Right to be ranked amongst them. — But see, *Pasquin*, is not that an Imperial Courier, knocking at Cardinal — Gate?

Pasq. The same. He comes, I suppose, with the last Result of the Court of *Vienna*, in Relation to the *Turkish* War. Prithce, *Marforio*, tell me thy Opinion of a War, in which many of
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the chief Powers of *Europe* seem to Interest themselves.

Marf. There are indeed some Powers that Interest themselves to prevent it, tho' their Belief of Christianity should induce them rather to Promote and Support it. But their pacifick Interposition proceeds more from a Dread of *France*, than from any Regard they have for either the *Emperor* or *Sultan*. They apprehend, that while the Imperial Arms are employed in the *East*, *France* will take that Opportunity of enlarging her Boundaries on the Side of the *Netherlands*. But, *Pasquin*, did they know as much as I do, of the Secret Articles of the late Peace, they would be less Solicitous about the *Turkish* War. The itinerant Mediators are much mistaken, if they imagine that the Emperor will involve himself to secure Countries that are less Useful to him, than to those that had abandoned, and obliged him to consider the future Tranquility of his Family, in the Gratification of the only Power in the World, capable of injuring his House.

Are those Powers so near sighted, as not to see, that something of this Nature is stipulated between the Courts of *Paris* and *Vienna*? Do they not see, by the Harmony that already appears between those Courts, that somewhat more than is published, is stipulated by the late Treaty? Is it not observable how artfully the Affair of the fourth Article of the Treaty of *Ryswick* was banded between *Paris* and *Vienna*? Won't they perceive how complaisantly *France* was put in Possession of *Lorrain* and *Bar*, before the Eventual Succession to *Tuscany* took Effect? But above all, is not the Consequence of the late Treaty visibly seen in Regard to the Succession of the *Pallatine*?

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If Harmony of the most durable Completion had not subsisted between *France* and the *Emperor*, should we have seen a Point of this Consequence, in which the first has no right to interfere, digested, and plan'd out at *Versailles*, and agreed to at *Vienna*? What is yet more observable in this Affair is, that *France*, which had always heretofore laid it down as a Rule to herself, to Support the *Protestant* Interest in *Germany*, in Order to raise Domestic Enemies to the House of *Austria*, is now joining that once, Rival Family, in the Suppression of that very Interest. This appears evidently from her present Attachment, to the House of *Sultzbach*, to the Exclusion of the Rights of that of *Prussia*.

But these, *Pasquin*, are but Dawnings only, of what may be soon expected from the Consequence of the late Treaty, by which all future Occasion of Contention, between the two great *Catholick* Powers, is most skilfully removed. *France* has no Views beyond the *Rhine*, nor was it the *Emperor's* Interest to perpetuate War upon his Family, by refusing her Concessions, which she should, at all Times, be in Condition to extort from his Heirs. If the *Emperor* had had any near Prospect of Issue Male, or could have relied on the Faith or Friendship of certain *Protestant Powers*, 'tis probable he would not have made those Concessions, at least, till he should be compelled by the Fate of Arms; but as he found his Vigour declining faster than his Years, and the Conduct of his *natural Allies* every Day changing from bad to worse, it became him to enter early into Measures for the future Security of his Daughters. Besides, the *Emperor* was grown to an Age, that most Princes of his Communion, begin to think seriously of Salvation. He might have reflected,
that

that as the long Enmity between his House and that of *Bourbon* had contributed to the Increase, nay, the very being of the Reformation ; 'twas incumbent upon him, before he left the World, and whilst yet 'twas in his Power, to remove a Cause that had so long obstructed the Propagation of his Faith. He might have scrupled the wrongful Effusion of so much Christian Blood as had been spilt in Consequence of that Enmity ; and, he might have thought it high Time to remove the only Obstacle that could induce *France* not to obstruct an intended Restitution for certain notorious *Wrongs* done by his Family.

But to consider the aforesaid Cession in a political Light only, it was undoubtedly the *Emperor's* Interest to agree to it as he had Females only to provide for ; but having in our Conferences of last Year, fully treated of this Point, I shall forbear a further Discussion of it at this Time.

In Consequence of this wise and truly pious Cession, the very Basis of the late Treaty, *France* is willing not only to gratify the Emperor, but his Son-in-Law. We have found her in this View, agreeing and promoting a Match between the King of *Sardinia* and the Eldest Princess of *Lorraine* : And we shall soon see her portioning the Second, and bestowing her on one that has been chief *Author* of the Harmony which subsists, and is like long to subsist, between the Great Catholick Powers.

We don't find that *France* joins in the Mediation between the *Emperor* and the *Turk*. On the contrary, *Pasquin*, she has engaged secretly, to support Part of the Expence of the War. It is her Interest to see the Emperor enlarge himself on that

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Side, while he is contented she should be Arbitress in the West; it is the Emperor's Interest to gratify *France* in that which would be an Injury to his Family to keep from her; and it is their common Interest, as Christians, to depress the common Enemy of their Faith.

But though the Commercial Interest of *France* does not permit her to act openly against the *Turk*, we shall not only find her secretly support the Emperor, but likewise *Don Carlos* and the *Venetians*, who are to declare as soon as the War becomes inevitable. Nay, we should find her spiriting up *Spain* to join in the Christian Quarrel, if some Views nearer *Home* did not admit of separating the Force of that Monarchy. So perfect is the Harmony between the Great Catholick Powers, in Vertue of the late Peace, that we shall observe them, on all Occasions of Moment, go Hand in Hand. All former Jealousies are already ceased, and effectual Care is taken, that the Cause of all future Jealousy and Dissention will be amicably removed. That Political System which had subsisted about two hundred Years, is now changed to another far more pious, equitable and salutary.

How just, how impenetrable, my dear *Pasquin*, are the Ways of Providence that has wrought, by Means imperceptable to Human Understanding, so great an Alteration in the Affairs of *Europe*! Who would have thought, twenty Years ago, that the Conduct of *Certain Powers* should have obliged the *Emperor* to throw himself into the Arms of *France* for the Establishment of their Common Faith, and the future Security of his Family? Who could have imagined that *Avarice* could so far have blinded some People as to sacrifice

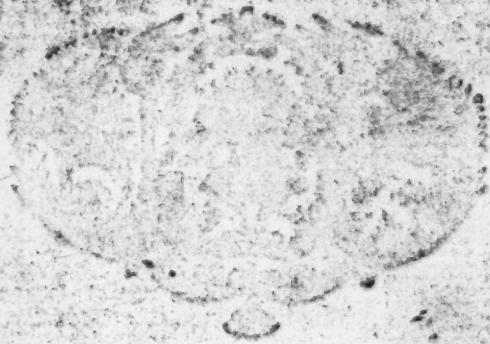
sacrifice their future Security to present Gain?--
But I forget that you are to publish your Award before to Morrow's Sun is mounted to his Meridian. Away, my Friend, to proclaim the exalted Vertues of the glorious Author of the present Union between the Catholick Powers of *Europe*.

Adieu.



F I N I S.

1754
The following is a list of the
names of the persons who have
been appointed to the office of
Magistrate for the County of
Hampden, in the State of
New York, for the year 1754.
Alfred



1754

